



**First Responder Network Authority Weekly Update to the
State and Territory Single Points of Contact (SPOC) –
September 18, 2017**

FirstNet News

- Last week, FirstNet held combined Committee and Board meetings in Boulder, Colorado. AT&T also provided various technical demonstrations in the FirstNet Innovation and Test Lab. Presentations and meeting materials can be found [here](#).
- Also last week, FirstNet staff presented at the National Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors (NATOA) Annual Conference in Seattle, Washington. PSAC Executive Committee member Mel Maier was also in attendance.
- FirstNet provided the keynote address at the U.S./Canada Border Conference in Detroit, Michigan last week, focusing on State Plan delivery and the upcoming Governor's decision.
- Also last week, the FirstNet tribal team presented at a meeting of the Southern California Emergency Managers Association in Banning, and to the Inter Tribal Emergency Response Commission of Nevada Board in Sparks. Additionally, the team met with the Passamaquoddy Tribe in Indian Township, Maine to discuss tribal coverage objectives in the State Plan.
- This week, FirstNet will be participating in the North American Energy & Infrastructure Finance Forums in New York, New York; the Missing and Unidentified Persons Conference in Atlanta, Georgia; a meeting of the New Hampshire Statewide Interoperable Executive Committee in Concord; a Virginia Public Safety Broadband Network/FirstNet Region VI Conference in Roanoke; the National Tribal Emergency Management Conference in Lemoore, California; and the Pennsylvania EMS Conference in Lancaster.

- Be sure to read FirstNet Board member Kevin McGinnis' piece "[Developing the first nationwide broadband network for EMS and other public safety agencies](#)" in this month's issue of the Journal of Emergency Medical Services' EMS Insider. Also, Congratulations to Kevin for receiving the National Public Safety Telecommunications Council (NPSTC) [Richard DeMello Award](#)!

News from the PSAC

- Congratulations to PSAC Chair Tom Sorley for receiving the NPSTC [Leadership Award](#)! The award recognizes individuals and/or organizations that have demonstrated exceptional personal and professional conduct.

Media Watch

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Urgent Communications 9/14: FirstNet is delivering more than we imagined (opinion by former Deputy NTIA Administrator Anna M. Gomez)

<http://urgentcomm.com/blog/firstnet-delivering-more-we-imagined>

Congress then gave us—as part of the Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (Spectrum Act)—the First Responder Network Authority (or FirstNet) and assigned 20 MHz of spectrum in the 700 MHz band (Band Class 14) to achieve this vision. It is humbling and gratifying not only to watch our efforts come to fruition but to see a result that is even better than what we had imagined was possible.

Boulder Daily Camera 9/14: National public-safety network, FirstNet, unveils its Boulder equipment lab

http://www.dailycamera.com/boulder-business/ci_31302124/national-911-network-firstnet-unveils-its-boulder-equipment

The facility on the eastern edge of the city is the technical headquarters of FirstNet, a national broadband network solely for first responders. Created from the 9/11 Commission Report, FirstNet has a dedicated broadband spectrum, the "highway from your cellphone to the tower" on which data travels, said Walt Rivenbark, assistant vice president of marketing and market development for AT&T's public safety division.

Techwire 9/11: FirstNet Closer to Becoming Reality

<http://www.techwire.net/news/firstnet-closer-to-becoming-reality-for-states.html>

The field of dreams in question is the highly touted First Responder Network Authority. Also known as FirstNet, the system was conceived in the wake of 9/11 as a solution to the radio communications failures that plagued first responders at the height of the tragedy. FirstNet is supposed to give police and fire personnel a seamless, state-of-the-art, high-speed voice and data communications system.

Web and Social Media

FirstNet's social media presence grew at its normal rate this week. Twitter gained 57 new followers, now at 7,466. Facebook has 1,761 followers. LinkedIn now has 2,896 followers. YouTube has 558 subscribers.

Do you have something you want to feature in the weekly update, such as a conference date, personnel announcement, or news article showcasing the work of your organization? Please send it to Outreach@firstnet.gov for possible inclusion in an upcoming update.